

only a shadow of the spoken word. The written word can't facilitate the same feeling as the spoken word can.

To my first teacher I owe my beginning. My first teacher was my great grandmother who was born in 1861 and began my instruction in 1948. My most recent mentor is still living and that is taqH3blu (pron. tak say blue, Violet Hilbert) who I carry high in my heart. I know that the generations yet to come will be able to hear the knowledge that she has passed on to me.

We have a term in our language called gW3dZadad (pron. ha ku sadad). To us it is a form of wealth. It has nothing to do with monetary currency or material things. It's the wealth of the knowledge of our culture. It's something that cannot be bought. Something that many governments have tried to destroy within the various nations of the world. They burned libraries. Tortured and killed artists. But still we survive and speak for those original ancestors of our cultures. I want to thank the people who nominated me for this award. I never expected any acknowledgment for what I do in life. I merely look upon the things that I do as a personal responsibility to keep what I have alive for future generations.

Thank You.

At this time I would like a couple of my singers to come up. We are going to sing a song from our people called P3t ti scHalal (pron. put tee sha la)

Way La Hey La  
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La  
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La  
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La  
Wo oh ho oh hey

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha la tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha la tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha la tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tid shabu (pron. put tee sha la tich shabu) (From the time of our ancestors comes our story)

We all live our own story. We all come from a different walk of life. But right here, tonight and right here in these next few days we will share the same story. For this moment in time we are brothers and sisters.

Thank you. [Applause]

# CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1350, INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Conference Report on H.R. 1350, the Improving Education Results for Children with Disabilities Act, IDEA, because it continues to protect the right of students with disabilities to receive a free and appropriate education. The very purpose of IDEA is to protect the civil rights of disabled students and I am pleased to see that my colleagues were able to remove the provisions in the House bill that undermined that purpose.

I have received many letters and phone calls from my constituents letting me know about the difference that IDEA has made for their children. One constituent wrote to me about her son, who has a form of autism, and how IDEA rights are helping him thrive for the first time in his life. Two other constituents of mine shared a story with me regarding their 12-year-old granddaughter, Veronica, and how IDEA allowed her to receive the proper attention she needed at an early stage in her schooling. Veronica has improved greatly since then and her needs are now met with minimal intervention.

This agreement goes a long way towards ensuring that IDEA will continue to benefit children with disabilities. For example, unlike in the House version of this bill, students will not be moved indefinitely to "alternative placements" for any violation of a school code of conduct—even if a child's disability is the cause of the specific behavior.

However, I would like to express my disappointment that this agreement still does not force us to live up to our funding promises for IDEA. Ever since IDEA's initial enactment in 1975, the law has included a commitment to pay 40 percent of the average per student cost for every special education student. The federal government currently pays for about 19 percent of the cost of educating a child with disabilities and at the current rate of increase we will never reach that promised level of funding.

The lack of funding for IDEA hurts students and it hurts schools. I urge my colleagues to join with me in voting for this conference report today, and then I urge them to join with me in fighting to make sure that we live up to our funding promises.

## TRIBUTE TO HACKETTSTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IN HACKETTSTOWN, NJ

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to pay tribute to Hackettstown Community Hospital as a model of an exceptional healthcare resource serving the rapidly growing, multigenerational population of Warren County and the city of Hackettstown, NJ for over 30 years.

Hackettstown Community Hospital is taking steps to make the transition into a Regional Hospital Center in response to evolving health care needs of northwest New Jersey residents. Investments have been made to provide additional state-of-the-art technology and services essential in diagnosing and treating the two leading causes of death: cancer and heart disease.

Recent statistics show, the residents of Warren and Sussex counties have a higher cancer incidence rate than the rate for the entire state of New Jersey. Hackettstown Community Hospital's new Cancer Center will meet this critical demand for specialized cancer services, offering the area's first radiation oncology program and a new chemotherapy/infusion therapy center.

And with a substantial increase in the number of patients seeking cardiac care,

Hackettstown Community Hospital plans a new Low-Risk Cardiac Catheterization (Angiography) Laboratory offering its patients extensive diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation services for patients with cardiac distress to long-term cardiovascular and cardiopulmonary illnesses.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Hackettstown Community Hospital for the excellent care it provides for the citizens of northwest New Jersey and for its continued success in its efforts to become a leading Regional Hospital Center.

## IN MEMORY OF CORPORAL NICHOLAS DIERUF

**HON. BEN CHANDLER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Corporal Nicholas J. Dieruf. On April 8, 2004, Corporal Dieruf made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while serving in Iraq. The work of our young men and women in the armed services is vital for the safety and security of our nation. The death of Corporal Dieruf is a true loss to the United States. I salute his dedication while serving in the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, a unit in the 1st Marine Division. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Emily Duncan Dieruf, his parents, and all those who loved him.

## RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, on this Saturday, National Adoption Day, courts across the country will be finalizing the adoptions of approximately 3,000 former foster care children, including several dozen children in my home state of Tennessee. I rise today in celebration of National Adoption Day and in honor of these newly-adopted children and their families.

This year marks the fifth National Adoption Day, which was founded in part by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption, and I have made it one of my priorities in Congress to ensure that all children in foster care are placed in loving, permanent homes.

Many children in foster care face long odds for adoption. In 2001, only about 50,000 children were adopted out of foster care, while as many as 129,000 children were left waiting. While the number of children being adopted out of foster care has been increasing, it is obvious that we have a long way to go.

I believe that our churches and communities must come together with government to help end this crisis, and that is why I've introduced H.R. 4431, the One Church, One Child Act of 2004.

This bill is based on a highly successful adoption ministry begun by a Catholic priest in